John J. Hebert (#010633) Mark W. Roth (#010708) Wesley D. Ray (#026351) POLSINELLI SHUGHART PC 3 CityScape Plaza One E. Washington, Suite 1200 Phoenix, AZ 85004 4 Telephone: (602) 650-2000 Facsimile: (602) 264-7033 E-Mail: PhoenixBankruptcyECF@polsinelli.com E-Mail: jhebert@polsinelli.com 6 E-Mail: mroth@polsinelli.com 7 E-Mail: wray@polsinelli.com Attorneys for Debtors 8 9 IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 10 THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA 11 In re: Chapter 11 Proceedings Case No. 2:11-bk-6060-RTBP 12 WILLOW CREEK PARTNERS, LLC. JOY LANE, LLC, Case No. 2:11-bk-6062-RTBP 13 Joint Administration Under Debtors. 14 Case No. 2:11-bk-6060-RTBP This filing applies to: 15 MOTION FOR JOINT ADMINISTRATION AND APPROVAL OF A CONSOLIDATED 16 ☐ SPECIFIED DEBTORS **CAPTION** 17 18 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 1015 and Local Rule of Bankruptcy 19 Procedure 1015-1, Willow Creek Partners, LLC, debtor and debtor-in-possession in the above-20 referenced bankruptcy ("Willow Creek"), through counsel undersigned, hereby requests that this 21 Court order the joint administration of its Chapter 11 case, numbered 2:11-bk-6060-RTBP, with 22 that of its affiliate Joy Lane, LLC ("Joy Lane"), (collectively with Willow Creek, the "Debtors"), 23 which is being administered under case number 2:11-bk-6062-RTBP. The joint administration of these related cases will allow for a more efficient and equitable administration of both Debtors' 24 25 estates. This Motion is supported by the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities. 26 27

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## **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

## I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 1. On March 11, 2011 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors filed their respective voluntary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona.
- 2. The Debtors are authorized to operate their businesses as debtors-in-possession pursuant to Sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. The Debtors are Arizona limited liability companies authorized to conduct business in the state of Arizona.
  - 4. The Debtors share common ownership and management.
  - 5. The Debtors share the same primary creditors.
  - 6. On the Petition Date, both Debtors filed plans of reorganization.
- 7. Those plans are nearly identical, such that the proceedings and evidence necessary in seeking confirmation of one plan will be identical to those required in seeking confirmation of the other.

## II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

If related or affiliated debtors have bankruptcy cases pending in the same court, their respective estates may be jointly administered under a consolidated caption. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1015(b). "Joint administration is a creature of procedural convenience. It is justified by the laudable desire to avoid the wasting of resources, which would result through the duplication of effort if cases involving related debtors were to proceed entirely separately." *In re Steury*, 94 B.R. 553, 553 (Bankr. N.D. Ind. 1988).

The Debtors' bankruptcies are the type best-suited for joint administration. The Debtors share common ownership and control, share common secured creditors and, because their plans of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A motion requesting joint administration must be accompanied by a request that all affiliated cases be transferred to the judge presiding over the case with the lowest number. Local Bankruptcy Rule of Procedure 1015(b). In these cases, no such transfer is necessary, as all cases were assigned to the same Judge.

reorganization are nearly identical, their prospects for reorganization are completely intertwined. 2 Because of the inter-relatedness of the Debtors and their plans of reorganization, the vast majority 3 of motions, hearings, and orders in these cases will apply with equal force to both Debtors and their 4 respective creditors. As such, the joint administration of these cases will not prejudice any party in 5 interest, but, rather, will benefit all parties involved through the provision of a unified and efficient administration of both Debtors' estates. 6 7 Joint administration of these Debtors' cases, and the use of a consolidated caption, will 8 avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, reduce the time and cost attendant to reorganization under 9 Chapter 11, and provide creditors whose interests may be affected by both Debtors' bankruptcies a 10 single forum in which to assert their claims. 11 WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court enter an Order: 12 Authorizing the joint administration of the Debtors' Chapter 11 cases; a. Authorizing the use of the consolidated caption above; and 13 b. 14 Granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper c. 15 under the circumstances. 16 DATED: March 10, 2011. POLSINELIJI SHUGHARTAC 17 18 By: 19 John/J. Hebert Mark W. Roth Wesley D. Ray 20 CityScape Plaza One E. Washington., Suite 1200 21 Phoenix, AZ 85004 22 Attorneys for Debtor 23 **COPY** of the foregoing mailed (or served via electronic notification if indicated by an "\*") 24 on March 10, 2011, to: 25 U.S. TRUSTEE'S OFFICE 230 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 204 26 Phoenix, AZ 85003 27

By: /s/ Diane Ashworth

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